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Study the past if you would divine the future – Confucius.

Dedicating an issue of the *International Journal of Bahamian Studies* to celebrate the 40th Anniversary of The College of The Bahamas seems to be a fitting way to capture something of its rich and varied history. This volume presents a selection of papers organized in sections roughly reflecting College's organizational structure of academic areas and departments, and collegiate and scholarly life.

The issue opens with Dr Linda Davis' thoughts on how The College of The Bahamas should position itself as a university participating in the international arena. The founding years of The College of The Bahamas are admirably traced in Dr Roger Brown's paper which was also his keynote address at the opening of the Harry C. Moore Library in April 2011. The results of the dream of a university for The Bahamas are outlined in the paper by William Fielding and Jeannie Gibson discussing the changing profile of College of The Bahamas' graduates: from yesterday's diplomas to today's bachelor and master's degrees.

Although not all The College of The Bahamas academic departments and areas are represented in the issue, the papers from the present-day Schools of Education, Nursing and Allied Health Professions, Mathematics, Physics and Technology, and the Culinary and Hospitality Management Institute have recorded the evolution of these disciplines in the College. The role of the academic support departments of Continuing Education and Extension Services, Libraries and Instructional Media Services and the Law Collection, and Graduate Programmes are traced in detail, highlighting their achievements over the past 40 years.

College life, namely athletics, the College trio, *C Force*, publishing and student life, describe some of the extra-curricular activities and programmes that have made The College of The Bahamas a vibrant centre not only of intellectual but also creative and civic life in The Bahamas.

The final section includes two papers, focussed on two diverse aspects of the College. Using statistics, William Fielding's paper analyses the impact College of The Bahamas' graduates have had on the Bahamian economy and Dr Berthamae Walker's paper analyses journal articles and dissertations that have been written about The College of The Bahamas over the past 40 years.

No research endeavour is ever final or complete and this volume about The College of The Bahamas and its achievements as it reaches its 41st year is no different. Some departments and academic areas are not included, events in College life such as *Colour of Harmony* and the College of The Bahamas Choir have not been documented, but still can be done so in the future.

This issue was edited by Associate Professor Marie Sairsingh-Mills from the School of English Studies – a true labour of love! Thank you for your hard work. Likewise, thanks are owed to all who contributed to the volume.

Virginia C. Ballance
Managing Editor